FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT UNIT U.S. FOREST SERVICE DORAVILLE, GEORGIA

LAND OWNERSHIP OR SURVEY AREA: TALLADEGA NATIONAL FOREST AND PRIVATE LANDS WITHIN THE NATIONAL FOREST BOUNDARY

STATE: ALABAMA

AREA WITHIN SURVEY BOUNDARY: 727,000 ACRES

DATE: JULY 19-20, 1978

PERCENT COVERAGE: 25%

AIRCRAFT: CESSNA 182

CREW: C.W. DULL, T. ROGERS

REPORT PREPARED BY: C.W. DULL

SURVEY OBJECTIVES: TO DETECT THE PRESENCE OF FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE ACTIVITY WITHIN AND ADJACENT TO THE TALLADEGA NATIONAL FOREST. SPECIAL EMPHASIS WAS PLACED UPON DELINEATING AREAS OF RED AND FADING PINE TREES SUSPECTED TO CONTAIN POPULATIONS OF SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE.

SURVEY RESULTS

A LARGE NUMBER OF SINGLE RED-TOPPED PINES AND MANY SMALL AREAS OF DEAD AND DYING PINES WERE OBSERVED TO BE SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE SURVEY AREA.

AN ESTIMATED 15 TREES NEAR PAYNE LAKE ON THE DAKMULGEE RANGER DISTRICT APPEARED TO BE DAMAGED BY HIGH WATER, BUT MAY ALSO HARBOR BARK BEETLE POPULATIONS.

A TOTAL OF 348 RED AND FADING PINES WERE OBSERVED AT 133 DIFFERENT LOCATIONS WITHIN THE SURVEY AREA.

REFER TO TABLE 1 AND THE ATTACHED MAPS FOR THE ESTIMATED SIZE AND LOCATIONS OF RED AND FADING PINE TREES.

CONCLUSIONS

SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE ACTIVITY ON THE TALLADEGA NATIONAL FOREST IS AT A LOW LEVEL AT THIS TIME. A LARGE NUMBER OF FADING PINES SURROUNDING AREAS OF RED AND DEAD PINES WERE NOT OBSERVED, INDICATING LITTLE SPOT GROWTH.

MANY OF THE RED PINES COULD BE THE RESULT OF LIGHTNING STRIKES OR IPS SPP. BARK BEETLES AND BLACK TURPENTINE BEETLES.

FIELD SURVEILLANCE BY NATIONAL FOREST PERSONNEL SHOULD CONTINUE, ESPECIALLY ON THE DAKMULGEE RANGER DISTRICT IN AREAS WHERE MULTIPLE TREE SPOTS WERE OBSERVED.

FOR ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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Table 1. Summary of Aerial Survey Data, Talladega National Forest. Surveyed 7/19-20/78.

Suspected Infestation Size (#trees)				
Ranger Districts	Singles	2-5 Spots:Trees	7-20 Spots:Trees	Total Spots:Trees
Talladega and Shoal Creek	31	17:43	1:10	49:84
Oakmulgee	44	26:74	14:146	84:264
Total	75	43:117	15:156	133:348

Average spot size = 2.6 trees









